

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 03501 221223Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05  
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02  
SS-15 ICA-20 TRSE-00 OMB-01 COME-00 ACDA-12 MCT-01  
EB-08 DOTE-00 /123 W  
-----019352 221300Z /72

R 221046Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1446  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY GABORONE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO  
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

UNCLAS PRETORIA 3501

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, PDEV, SF, WA  
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: RAILWAY LINE EXPLOSION

1. PRESS ACCOUNTS OF JUNE 22 STATE THAT AN EXPLOSION ON JUNE 21 WRECKED THE RAIL LINES BETWEEN WINDHOEK AND WALVIS BAY AND ALMOST CAUSED TWO SERIOUS ACCIDENTS. ONE GOODS TRAIN HAD AN ENGINE AND SEVERAL CARS DERAILED WHEN IT WAS UNABLE TO STOP COMPLETELY BEFORE REACHING THE DAMAGED LINE AND A PASSENGER TRAIN BARELY STOPPED BEFORE HITTING THE DAMAGED SECTION. NO INJURIES WERE REPORTED.

2. PRESS REPORTS CITE RAILWAY OFFICIALS AS SAYING THE DAMAGE WAS CAUSED BY EXPLOSIVES AND "CERTAINLY LOOKS LIKE SABOTAGE." THE UNCLASSIFIED

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RAIL LINE IS CLOSED AT PRESENT. POLICE AT THE SCENE REFUSED COMMENT. THE PRESS STATES THIS IS THE FIRST KNOWN RAIL LINE SABOTAGE ALTHOUGH SEVERAL ATTEMPTS HAVE BEEN THWARTED IN THE LAST MONTH, INCLUDING THE DISCOVERY OF 50 KILOGRAMS OF EXPLOSIVES UNDER A BRIDGE AT KEETMANSHOOP LAST MONTH.

3. NAMIBIA NATIONAL FRONT ISSUED A STATEMENT ON JUNE 22

DENYING ANY INVOLVEMENT IN THE EXPLOSION AND CONDEMNING THE  
INCIDENT.  
EDMONDSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPLOSIVES, ROLLING STOCK  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978PRETOR03501  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780260-0735  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2246700  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NAMIBIA: RAILWAY LINE EXPLOSION  
**TAGS:** PINS, PDEV, SF, WA  
**To:** STATE USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkvgwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/be8cbf83-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014